The Process by Which the Eggs Are Developed Into the Finny Inhabitant of the Water-A Description Mr. McDonald's Invention.

One of the officials at the Fish Commission is authority for the statement that the Commission breeds between 15,000,000 and 100,000,000 shad annually. These fish are distributed among the streams having sait water terminuses throughout the country. There are two Government stations engaged in the propagation and distribution of shad-the one at the Fish Commission's Building in this city, and that near Havre de Grace, Md. In addition to these regular stations, there is also a batchery on board of the Commission's steamer, and two of its four special cars can readily be fitted with the necessary apparatus and used temporarily for the same purpose

The process for hatching shad eggs is a most interesting one. A visitor to the museum of the Fish Commission notices a number of large giass jars filled with curious tiny spherical objects, evidently many thousands. These multitudinous brown pellets, as they seem at first, are kept in continual motion by streams of fresh water coustantly pouring into the jars through glass tubes and finding an outlet through another system of tubes. It inches has been said that the little spheres resemble, at a casual glance, brown pellets, but a closer inspection reveals the fact that they are semi-transparent, or, at all events covered by a transparent coating, and inside this coating, or membrane, as it is really. are curiously sentient specks which are nothing less than tiny eyes. In short, these little brown pellets are the eggs of the shad, and they are seen in the hatching apparatus preparatory to emerging in the contiguous tank or aquarium as promising finny proteges of Uncle Sam.

The hatching apparatus, which is the invention of the present Fish Commissioner, is the result of a long series of experiments, and is a simple, effective, and ingenious device. It consists of a cylindrical glass vessel with a round bottom, provided with a screw top, Hy. with apertures for the admission of two glass tubes, one to supply the eggs with a constant flow of water, the other to young shad as they are hatched. The supply tube extends to the bottom of ing each egg in succession to the top. It is a quality of dead eggs that once having reached the top of the mass they will not again mingle with the others, so that they gradually accumulate in the upper part of the jar, whence they are removed by simply pushing down the exit tube until they are carried off with the overflow. Eight or twelve of the jars are arranged round one tank and furnished with water from the general supply pipe at the Each one holds six quarts and has a eggs, though usually operated with about eighty-five thousand.

So transparent is the egg, and so rapid the development of the embryo, when once started, that the whole se ries of changes may be observed in the one individual, until it rends the deli-

cate membrane and escapes into the spherical in form, surrounded by a very much wrinkled shell-membrane and is a pale amber in color. Immediately after fertilization, the membrane is rapidly distended to about seven times its original size by the absorption of water, and the wrinkles disappear. The egg is then about an eighth of an inch in diameter, and within can be seen the vitellus or york, surrounded by a delicate envelope of germinal matter, called the cortical layer. In a very few moments this envelope is thickened on one side by the concentration of its material, and, inside of half an hour, what is called the blastodisc is formed. This is a protuberance at one end of the egg composed of very minute germinal cells. In the course of an hour and a half this disc commences to undergo a series of divisions into numerous minute spheres in the formation of what is technically known as the "mulberry mass," or blastula, a phenomenon universally attendant upon the development of all ova of whatever kind. This is the first indication of the spinal column. After this, the elements contained in the egg become separated into two layers, the upper and the lower; the upper containing the matter from which is developed the bones, muscles, brain, and nerves, and the lower constituting the ultimate formation of the viscera, etc.

Shortly, at one side of the spreading blastodisc, the first trace of the embryo appears in a swelling at a certain point. This lengthens rapidly, and a little later the embryo is quite distinctly outlined. At this period, too, the rudimentary eyes, the first of the sense organs to be developed, are visible as two bright, elongated thickenings of the nervous layer. Very soon the tail begins to appear. And now the little fish develops apace although, to the naked vision, very little of him is visible, as he whirls in the jar among his multitude of brothren, save those two bright little specks of eyes. On closer scrutiny, however, two or three faint, shadowy, dark lines are observable; colled half round the interior of the egg, marking the position of the body, which is nearly as transperent as the surrounding water. Fairtly visible, too, is the vitelline sac in which the remainder of the volk is inclosed attach. the elements contained in the egg become separated into two layers, the too, is the vitelline sac in which the remainder of the yolk is inclosed, attached to the abdomen of the fish, and from which he gains sustenance. He has acquired considerable power of movement by this time, and, at intervals of about one second, he gives a vigorous wriggle. A few hours later, or at about the end of the third day, a movement of more than usual strength will rup-

days longer, when it will be finally ab-Forbed and disappear. Were a young shad given, like Richard the Third, to reflection, he might

ture the frail prisoner and set hin free. He is yet far from being a perfeet fish, for, though his mouth is open, there is no passage through the eso phagus, and he is sustained by the conents of the yolk sac, which will remain attached to him for five or six

well consider himself "unfinished, sent before my time into this breathing world, scarce half made up," for he has, as yet, only half his rightful belongings-no fins, but two rudimentary pectorals; no teeth, an imperfect heart only the promise of a liver, and scarcely a hint of an air bladder. But vic tualed for a week, with nothing on his mind, he is as oblivious of his defects as we are of ours, and as he daris about the hatching-jar, still hampered by his shell, perhaps, from which he has not been able to get himself entirely free, he is plainly in a mood to enjoy

At length, after violent efforts, he reaches the top of the jar and is carried by the overflow into the receiving tank, whence he is transferred, with his fellows, into tin cans for distribution. It is necessary that this should be effected at once, for, unlike many the species handled by the Fish Commission, the trout, the salmon, and the bass, for example, the shad cannot be reared to maturity in confinement. Before the disappearance of the vitelline sac, it must be turned loose to find its natural food and to make its way, at this time of year, to the sea, which is its home. The shad belongs to that class of fishes called anadromons, which ascend the rivers and estuaries during the spawning se son to deposit their eggs, and return thereafter to salt water. The distributing cans, each containing about thirty thousand fry, are sent by rail to various points on the coast and emptied into the rivers, where, in the course of the summer, the fish will attain a length of two or three

TOLD ABOUT EDWARD VII. Many Anecdotes About England's Versatile Ruler.

The following aneedotes of the King of England were given to the writer by a person who, for nearly six months in the ear, is a member of the royal household ight into constant and intimate ontact with the sovereign and his fam

After the death of the Queen the quee ion as to what should be done with the onkeys that used to draw her carriage The matter was settled by th King forthwith He ordered that all of work no more, but should be kept in comfort until their death. The rest of those that had actually been of service to the Queen were to remain in the royal sta-bles, but were to be exclusively for the ise of the ladies and children of the fam-The offspring of these last animals were to be distributed among the late Queen's tenants. "But," wrote Edward VII to the chiefs of the respective stacarry off the overflow, and a small tank or aquarium for the reception of the with persons who will accord them humane treatment. I shall hold you pernally responsible for their welfare after the jar, and the water rising to the exit
A ruler who, amid the stress and strain
at the top keeps the mass of eggs in
of his accession to the throne, could thus constant circulation, in what has been remember the humble servants of his described as a "boiling motion," bring- | mother is pretty sure to possess attri-ing each egg in succession to the top, | buces that will endear him to his people. The King, who is of a kindly and gen erous disposition, has a tart wit when needful. Not so long since an American woman residing in Paris wrote him a long letter to the effect that if he would send her a "personal memente" of his mother she would give a sum of money to any charitable Institution he might designate abroad as she is at home, which perhaps explains the bad taste of her comm cation. But the King replied through his rate of about two quarts per minute.
Each one holds six quarts and has a capacity of over one hundred thousand London Hospital was in need of funds. memento," as desired. He added that the Enclosed was a haif crown piece, bearing it need hardly be added, the effigy of the dead Queen. The "gillies" that were a feature of

Queen Victoria's household have been retained by the King. These servants have always been noted for their faithfulness of service and frankness of speech. Recently the King, exhausted by a long A fresh-laid shad egg is irregularly ment, which was brought by a "gillie"day's work, ordered some light refresh-

"I think I'd like to change places with you, Macdonald," s..id the King with a

"Awn daurin tae theenk, your mawusty," replied the honest Scot, "that it taks an unco guid mon tae be aye a gul-

"Do you mean by that that I'm not 'guid' enough?" "Aw'll no say that," answered the undaunted Mac. "but awn makin' bold tae tell yaur mawjusty that ye'd hauv a bitter lot the learn."

"You're right, Macdonald," was the smiling response. "Some kings are made, but clever gillies are born, not made." but clever gillies are born, not made."

Here is another story relative to Edward's kindly disposition. Some six weeks ago, while lunching with intimates at Cowes, a person of exalted rank in the army expressed his opinion very frankly in regard to a British general now in South Africa. He accused him of incompetency, and worse, hinted that the King's influence might be used to relieve him of his command, and wound up by declaring that he was a "small man"—small of brain and heart.

"You think him small, perhaps, because you see him in perspective," interposed the King. "The vista, of which the other end is the Transvaal, is a long one, you know. If you were closer to him you would probably form a different estimate of him." And he changed the subject forthwith.

One of the most efficient and faithful

way, this may interest you.

Captain E— was here given a letter offering him command of a superb and newly built liner, one of several running between London and an English colony. The letter was to the effect that the personal recommendation of the King was the cause of its being written. The overwhelmed captain never quite remembered how he got out of the palace. But he is now the monarch of the ocean liner.

As everybody knows, one of his hobbies throughout life has been clothen. Once upon a time one tailor monopolized his pon a time one tailor monopolized his estom. Now he distributes it among a cistom. Now he distributes it among a half dozen. In all cases he "suggests" alterations of an exhaustive nature when fatting time comes. Very lately he was in the hands of the fitters, one of whom noted with delightful awe the minute acquaintance that the royal customer had with the details of the sartorfal art. Finally, and unable to restrain himself, the man of goose and basting board burst out thus:

What a magnificent tailor your Majeswhat a magnitude with the would have made."
"I think I would have done pretty well," said the King, modestly, taking a final squint at his back seams.—New York Commercial Advertiser.

AUSTRALIAN GEM STONES

Comparatively Few of Commercial Value Have Been Found.

Abundance of Inferior Supphires, Six priests in sumptuous yellow silk Rubies, and Emeralds Lends to robes, with long flowing hair and beards, the Bellef That the Discovery of Superior Stones Will Be Made.

Considerable quantities of sapphires, rubies, emeralds, and other gem stones have been found in Australia during the last few years, and although there have been comparatively few of commercial value, their abundance natperior class of stones will be made.

In New South Wales sapphires are found in many places, mostly in alluvial deposits containing gold and tin; how it was miraculously given to them; but it is only in a few instances that the stones possers sufficiently good and well-being of mankind; that he re-color to render them valuable as gems; membered the time when they in Odessa the majority of the sapphires having a greenish-blue or bottle-green tint, while most of those which are pure by transmitted light are of such a deep of indifferent quality are especially numerous a few miles to the east of Inverell, in the northern part of the State, so much so that the name Sapphire has been given to the locality.

Rubles are frequently met with, but able may yet be discovered. The topaz is found in many places in New South Wales, especially in the northern elevated regions. Here, near Emmaville, fine coloriess transparent crystals were found associated with emerald, beryl. fluorspar, mispickel, knolin, and tinstone in a pegmatite dyke traversing indurated claystones. Many of the topages have a beautiful pale blue color and are of large size.

Prof. Liversidge states that a portion of a large bluish-green crystal found at Mudgee, in the western districts, weighed several pounds; also that one found at Gundagai, in the south, of a 11-2 inches, and weighed 11 ounces 5 ciate ilar color from Gulgong weighed 18 ances avoirdupois, The New South Wales emerald mining industry dates from 1890, when a rich deposit was dis covered at Emmaville, and 2,225 carats forwarded as a trial shipment to Lon don, some of the gems realizing 24 per carat. About 50,000 carats were obtained during the next two years, but the hardness of the matrix in which the emeralds were found proved a source of considerable difficulty, it being almost impossible to break down the rock without injuring and frequently de-stroying the stones. In this way, it is asserted, many of the finest and most valuable specimens have been lost,

The somewhat inferior character of later shipments to London caused them to prove unremunerative, and during the next few years mining operations became suspended. These have since been resumed, and it is anticipated that in due course deposits of richer quality will be reached. Turquoise has recently been discovered in the coastal region south of Sydney. It occurs chiefly as thin veins, from one-sixteenth to nearly one-quarter of an inch in thickness in the joints of the slate. The color of most of the mineral hitherto found is not sufficiently good to render it marketable, being of a bluishgreen instead of the sky-blue, which makes turquoise a highly-prized gem. Some of the stones, however, are of fair color, and lend encouragement to the hope that further prospecting may result in the discovery of more valuable material. Zircons of small size ar extremely common in the auriferous and stanniferous gravels in different parts of the State, but large stones are

comparatively rare. The beach sands of the nowhern coast, which contain platinum and tin, are largely composed of minute grains or crystals of zircon. The largest specimens of this mineral are found in the neighborhood of Hanging Rock (Nundle); they are colorless and transparent, and possess such a fine lustre that the gold miners have frequently mistaken them for diamonds. Garnets also are of common occurrence in many parts of the State, and they vary in size from minute grains to crystals of one inch or more in diameter; but stones suitable for cutting and polishing as gems appear to be rare, and so far they have not been regarded as of commercial importance.

Other stones found in New South Wales include the opal, amethyst, chrysolite, cairngorm, and onyx; in fact, almost every kind of known gem stone is believed to exist in the State, but the absence of surface indications acts as a check upon systematic prospecting. In "The Mineral Resources of New South Wales," published by the State Government, are given a number of plans and views of the localities in stones are found.

BLESSING WATER WORKS. A Peculiar Ceremony Which Still

Survives in Russin.

Though no doubt acquainted with the w and old style of reckoning dates, the latter of which still survives in Russia, the reader will understand that it would seem rather odd when, this year, I left home just after Whitsuntide to be present at the opening and consecration of a new water works plant in Odessa, to find myself only on the eve of the Russian anniversary; and although we in England are quite familiar with the consecration of churches and burial grounds, the conse cration of a water works plant, to me, at least, appeared somewhat quaint. Of this remarkable ceremony a short description

may be of interest, particularly to Leeds

people, from whose city the machinery in question had been sent out, and of which

place there was more than one representa-

tive present among the small band of

ondering Britishers. What is now known as the Odessa Municipal Water Works was taken over from an English company about four years gitt Imperial engle, placed between busts of the Czar and Czarina, with flowers, psims, and other tropical plants in the background. But the interest centred in the smaller marquee, which was made to represent the chancel of a Greek church, with altar, cross, candles, gilded figures, and other unfamiliar impedimenta.

The imposing ceremony began at noor preceded by the Archbishop of Odessa and followed by fifty bareheaded choir boys, commenced chanting. There was no instrumental accompaniment, but the musical intonation was wonderfully sweet and true, the rich deep voices of the priests being something never to be forgotten, and hardly to be realized by anyone who has never been present at the service in a great Greek church. One of urally leads to the assumption that in the near future discoveries of a su-the near future discoveries of a su-perior class of stones will be made. of the lessons which had been read-how the children of isrnel were in sore dis-tress in the wilderness for want of water; how necessary pure water is to the health had not a sufficient supply; and he asked them to join with him in thanking God that now they had enough and to spare. Then, after each of the priests washed the golden cross in the water shade that they appear almost black contained in a silver bowl, and handed it when seen by reflected light, Sapphires | round to be kissed by each officer and member of the council, they proceeded to consecrate the machinery, buildings, reservoir, and the ground on which they stood to the use of Aimighty God.

This being over, the banquet was served, nd one began to enquire "who was who? Rubies are frequently met with, but specimens of the Oriental, or true ruby. If were in court costume. The deputy ever, that crystals of sufficient size and purity to be commercally valuable may yet be discovered. The possible, however, that crystals of sufficient size authorities were in uniform and the rest able may yet be discovered. guests wearing decorations of some kind. in the course of the proceedings I was called upon by Nicolaus Dimitrieff, the chairman of the water works committee, a man of shrewd common sense, energetic, dramatically eloquent, and a barrister withal, to respond on behalf of the makers of the pumping plant, whose toast had been drunk with considerable good will, particularly by the British section

After all, one was left with the impressions that the ceremony of consecration was an appropriate one; that the Russians are most hospitable, and much broader minded than is sometimes supposed in England; that in Russia, as in every civilized country the best public speakers are those (such as barristers) who get the pale blue-green tint, measured 3 by most practice; that the authorities appre high-class work, though obtained pennyweight, while another of a sim- from England; and when they possess it, -Leeds Mercury.

MANY STRANGE COINCIDENCES. odd Chances Which Have Given Sci-

entists Cause for Wonder. Coincidences are far more common than generally supposed. They account for nineteen-twentieths of all the prodigies ghost stories, and so-called cases of telepathy. Not long ago our friend, Judge brary an old acquaintance that he had not seen for many years. The usual questions and compliments concerning ach other's health and general condition were passed, and then one of them politely suggested to the other that he considerably younger than himself. Upon that they compared the year of birth and found it to be the same. astonished and pleased them, and they ompared the month and found that to b same, and then the day, and found that to be the same. As both were coniderably past threescore and ten the chances of such a coincidence were slight Some years ago in this city twelve physicians were in the habit of meeting once a year to dine on a fixed day. At one of these dinners, as it was not convenient for all to keep that day, it was proposed that they meet on one another's birthday annually in succession. This proposition received general assent, and they pro-posed to arrange for the next. It transpired that four of the twelve doctors were born on the same day of the same month. As they were not competent to continued in the same old way. This incident was communicated to us by two of the twelve. Such coincidences are occurring in all forms of activity.

A few weeks ago we desired very much to have a recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States covering an important point, but could not ascertain the number of the case on the calendar nor the names of the parties, and were just about to write to a lawyer in Washington to request him to look it up, when a friend in Washington, writing us on an entirely different subject, sent us a typewritten copy of that very decision, which had not been made more than four weeks, to cover a principle which was not in our minds at all.

A lawyer of this city, of high literary accomplishments, whose private library is one of the finest in the land, had the pleasure of meeting Charles Dickens when he was in this country, and subsequently sent him a certain book which he had nre pared as secretary of a society, containing certain particulars which the great novelist valued. After Dickens died, a ookseller on Fifth Avenue bought a number of books from Dickens' library, containing his autograph, and sent a circular to various customers stating the fact. Our friend determined to purchase one or two for his library, but delayed. When finally he went to the store, he found the last book had been sold only half an hour before. He went back to his office chagrined. A short time afterward a gentleman came in and said, "C-, I knew you thought a great deal of Dickens, and would like to have a book from his librawhich diamonds and other leading gem ry. I happened to be in the store and heard a clerk say they had sold all Dickens' books containing his autograph but one, and I bought it as a present to you." And it was the very book he had sent to Dickens. Dickens had received it, put his autograph in it, and it had come back in

late ex-Judge Fancher of the Supreme Court of this city informed us that ne consented to deliver a lecture in New Jersey for the benefit of a church. The went, and, to his great delight, one of his clients, in no way connected with his denomination or the church, had driven over from his fine estate, out of compilment to his lawyer, and asked him home
with him for the night. The next morning
before he returned to the city, he conducted him through his greenhouses. Two
days later Judge Fancher received a letter from a firm of solicitors in England,
informing him that they were employed
by the executors of a will disposing of a
great estate, to make search in the United States for a certain man who was one
of the heirs. The man had come to the
United States, and was supposed to be a
florist. His name was given.

The judge hald no particular knowledge
on the subject, and was about to write to
them that the information was too meagre, and to suggest another lawyer who

an English company about four years ago, and although this company was not a financial success, it is some satisfaction to know that the services of the English officials—Messra Platts, father and son, with their staff—have been retained, and trade kept in the old groove, in these days of keen competition. The Chumka pumping station is situated about two mics from the centre of the city and on the opening day, Whitsunday, June 2, or May 29, according to the Russian calendar, along the principal thoroughfares leading thereto bunting was lavishly displayed. The grounds, buildings, and marquees were tastefully decorated, the larger marquee being laid out for the banquet and ornamented at the principal end with a

Foreign Monarchs Who Have an Eye to Business Investments.

The Czar, Edward VII, Isabella and Others Heavily Interested in American Securities - Wilhelmina a Shrewd Business Woman

There was trouble in the chateau Het Loo when Wilhelmina learned the extent of her young husband's debts. Though a very small prince and several times a younger son, Henry of Mecklenberg-Schwerin had piled up imposing liabili-ties. It is a family talent, one of his uncles having had himself declared a bankrupt a few years ago.

"It is the regiment that ruins these young fellows," explained to me the other day an Austrian acquaintance of the prince, passing through Paris incognito. "And it is a mistake to think being quartered in some little country garrison can save them from disastrous competition with rich men. In a great city like Berlin a poor young prince with a high social position finds his time taken up by legitimate society, but in these out-of-the-way stations there is nothing but gamble, drink, go racing, and pay court to young actresses and others who come hunting. There are always some very rich noble-men who set the pace, and the sporting business men in the neighborhood, willing to spend lavishly to keep in such society, confirm it. His family allowed Henry of Mecklenberg perhaps 20,000 marks (\$5,000) year. It is easy to understand how the money lenders got hold of him."

Before feaving for The Hague Prince Henry had come to an understanding with certain of his Berlin, Potsdam, Frankfort creditors. Within a month after his marriage he was to pay into the hands of a syndic of their appointment a third of the sum total of their claims.

The month passed, but the prince gave no signs of life. Then the syndic, having an acute idea of his responsibility, addressed himself directly to the young queen and bride.

The revelation ended the honeymoon Withelmina is one of the richest sovereigns of Europe. Her palaces are filled with pleasant and precious treasures. Her pictures, porcelain, plate, old carved furniture, and tapestrics are the accretions of three centuries. They have never been looted in times of a revolution and never broken into to make marriage portions for poor relatives. Her civil list is \$500,000 a year, the crown lands bring in \$190,000 a year, and she has the imr fortune of her late uncle, Prince Henry of the Netherlands. He made a will in favor of his wife, a sister of the Duchess of Connaught, but it could not be found. so that his fortune went to Wilhelmina's father, who died shortly after inheriting it. Wilhelmina could pay her young hus band's debts, therefore, without feeling it, and they say it is not mere "prudence that withheld her. But she was shocked she had thought she was getting a different kind of husband-"not like nen," her apologists say; and, therefore, her refusal to pay became the sign of a much more serious complication. In any case the syndic, in despair of ar-

riving at an arrangement, decided at last negotiate the papers on the Bourse at Amsterdam. There they float today, despite all reports that the affair is arranged. The syndic got good terms for them so that his principals—usurers one and all—have made a good speculation. As for Henry, he has simply Amsterdam creditors where he had Berlin, Potsdam, and Frankfort creditors, and as he has been 'dote" by the Dutch State, he will be able to pay the notes one by one.

The fact is that the young Queen of Holland, like all women when they put

King Edward VII has found r put \$5,000,000 in American industrials. They are said to average him II per cent a year something gigantic in view of the European rate of interest. It is even told how he borrowed a large part of this ital to make these investments-with regard to whose stability the (now no long-er) American, Mr. Astor, had the most natural interest in the world to advise. The Duke of York, the Kings of Italy

and Greece, Denmark and Belgium, the Sultan and the Shah of Persia have saited down great sums from their private for tunes in the American securieties which give such large returns and so safe and far away from European complications. Even poor Spain, i. e., the rich Queen Regent-figures on the list for \$2,000,000. As for good old Isabella, who continues to live so gay a life in Paris, an experience of the present writer's youth gave him a startling insight into her foresight. It was fifteen years ago, in a court house of the county seat of Eik county, Pa., during escheat proceedings brought way of "information" against the Eric Railroad Company of New York,

and certain Pennsylvania companies, in whose name, it was alleged, the former held great stretches of coal and timber lands in defiance of the statutes of mort-main and foreign corporations. In this way there was question of the real ownership of other tracts whose titles were vested in a Philadelphian as trustee, "For whom do you hold these properties?" he was asked, and the judge, after

much debate, allowed the question.
"I hold them for her Majesty, Isabella, ex-Queen of Spain," was the reply.

When we come to William II, Emperor

of Germany-in a way, perhaps, the great est business man of them all-it is found night was stormy and dark, and he debat-ed long whether or not he should go. He of all things American, except buckwheat cakes and other breakfast dishes, he has \$3,000,000 invested in Atchison and Topeka, Illinois Central, Louisville and Nashville, and Union and Northern Pacific Railroad Companies' stocks. 'The Empress Augusta Victoria has \$500,000, and the Princes of the house of Prussia have \$1,000,000 in the

ta Victoria has \$560,000, and the Princes of the house of Prussia have \$1,000,000 in the same securities.

Two well-known Berlin financiers have promised Wilhelm aid to a new and colossal combination from which his imperial Highness expects great personal relif. Not only in Berlin, but all over Europe they are wondering how the Emperior is to reward Count Waldersee on his return from Pekin. The old feudal aristocracy objects vehemently to his being nominated prince, on account of the bourgeois origin of the countess, his wife, who was the American Elizabeth Lee, daughter of David Lee, a wholesale grocer of New York. (Before marrying Waldersee she had become the wife and widow of the great uncle of the present Empress, who gave up his princely rank to marry her.) What is absolutely sure, however, is the creation of a Chino-Germanic bank, under the auspices of Count Waldersee, and with a capital of one hundred and twenty-five million marks.

Part of the capital is to be taken from the indemnity which China is to pay to Germany. Another part is to be furnished by the two Berlin financiers al-

ready mentioned. In any case, one of the chief purposes of the bank is to have the honor to pool and definitely arrange the enormous private debts of William II. contracted, in great part, to meet these

very American investments.

After this it is to be hoped that no one will doubt the young Emperor's business

As the new bank promises to turn over some 16,000,000 marks to the payment of these debts and so relieve the Reichstag of a threatening spectre, the latter pru-dent body will hasten to vote its foundation and constitution the moment the signal is given. This, it is said, is the secret of the brusque and unexpected retreat of the German troops from China. Certainly the young Emperor is a good

business man.
The Pope is, after all, the one European sovereign who is neither obliged to nor takes any pleasure in making manchai combinations. Indeed, his present Holiness can scarcely be said to make in-vestments. He has great deposits in many different banks of different Fabulous sums in gold coin are known to be kept at the Vatican. And as more is always coming in, he can easily afford himself the austere morality of refusing to take usury

As to the entire fortune of the Vaticahwhether it includes the private fortune of the Pope or not is not stated—the Italian fiscal administration has just been attempting to estimate it. According to these estimates—which must, from their thirty thousand. nature, be very general, indeed-the "for-tune of the Vatican," including all real estate, deposits, annuities, rents, and so on, amounts to the sum of 2,120,000,000 lire, or, say \$420,000,000,-Philadelphia Times.

LITERARY PRETENTIOUSNESS.

People Who Frequently Discuss Books Have Seldom Head Much.

"There is one curious thing about the literature of the world," said a gentleman who keeps in touch with literary matters, "and that is in the fact that the persons who talk so much about the masterpieces have never read them at all, and, in fact, whatever knowledge they may have of these matters is gained by reading popular criticism. They have glanced at the poem, or the masterpiece in prose, but they have never had the patience or the Lost' and just pass back over your own experience. Now, I have never read it myself, and while I may be a little below the everage among literary people, still my own case may furnish a basis to figure on. Not many persons outside of book-worms and religionists have ever had the worms and religionists have ever had the patience to read 'Paradise Lost,' and yet you find many persons who write and talk elaborately about this bit of philosophy poetically put. The same thing might be said about other masterpleces. There is Homer's "Ifiad," for instance. How many whole thing from end to end.

have read it, and there are many persons who have never glanced upon the 'lliad' dicate the gradual severing of very an-in its entirety. This same thing is true about many of the other pieces in literature that are talked so much about. I knew a man once, a young and sturdy fellow, who was particularly fond of ecoomic studies, and he was constantly spouting Adam Smith, and seemed to know more about "The Wealth of Nations" than any man I had ever met. 1 asked him one day when he read Smith, and was amazed by the frank statement that he had never even seen a copy of the book. This, of course, is merely illustrative, and it shows just exactly what I have been saying-that a very small per cent of persons read the classical books to which most frequent reference is made. The fact is that the young Queen of Holland, like all women when they put themselves scriously to it, is a very good it money investor; and the story of how she got in and out of certain not-too-brilliant combinations of her cough Leopold, in King of the Belgians, makes instructive reading.

There have been a number of cases of guiet, drawing American business men, who, in return for the social favors that amused their wives, put royalty "on to" you do things. Thus the Emperor of Russia is a stockholder in the Pennsylvania, the Northern and Canadian Pacific, the Central Railroad companies to the amount of \$2,000,000, the most of it invested within the last four years on the advice of a few works, so far as the essence is concerned to the social flowers and when they put \$5,000,000 in American diplomat. On it he draws an average of \$500,000 annually, or \$5 per cent interest on his money.

MAN AND HIS BURDEN.

The fact is talk women when they put their not more than 16 per cent of the most of it, is a very good the soric, the works, so far as the essence is concerned.

The fact we which most of it invested in any that not more than 16 per cent of the most of it his story weights in the literature of the world, and unity windows in the houses of the well-foods. To the stranger within her gates, one over the conservative line somewhat in making it. Among my own acquaintances:

I am sure that if I should say only two out of every 106 had read the books they talk about. There is nothing in the matter. There is nothing in the matter. There is nothing in the matter. There is nothing in the matter to be ashamed of, either, because they have been able to get a good idea of the matter. There is nothing in the matter to be ashamed of, either, because they have been able to get a good idea of the matter. There is nothing in the matter to be ashamed of, either, because they have been able to get a good idea of the matter. I dare say that not more than 19 per cent of the persons who talk about the heavy-weights in the literature of the world

IN OLD NEWFOUNDLAND.

Quaint Ways and Doings of the Residents of the Colony.

Wrecks the Main Source of Revenue to St. John's-The Lodge Beside the "Graveyard of the Atlantic"-Daily Auction Sales of Vessels' Cargoes.

hundred miles to the south of St. John's lies the king's highroad of the world, the pathway of the trans-Atlantic liners; 100 miles to the north lies the world's nerve centre, the landing-place of the Anglo-American cable at Heart's Content. Almost in sight, on one side, wealth and fast on and commerce pass and repass; almost in hearing, on the other side, the death of kings and the birth of princes, the burst of war, and the herald of peace, are heard, recorded, and passed on. Midway between the proession of the ships and the clamor of the cables, utterly uninterested in either, in a sunny little valley back of a narrow crack in the high cliff coast of Newfoundland, St John's sleeps in provincial content strolls down to business at 10 in the morning, buys a few codfish and ships them thirty thousand.

St. John's is very English and very pro-vincial. At the cable station nearby all the news of both worlds is received and transmitted; but the St. John's newspa-pers print just four inches of foreign news daily-two lines to the death of a downger empress and a column to the condition of the fishery at Gooseberry Island; eight words to the American steel strike, and a full page to the ponderous piatitudes of the Colonial Legislature.

It is hard to say which most impresses the visitor, the contented, satisfied, con-servative provincialism of the place or the reminders of England, the crossing sweep, the barmaid, the rows of shoes along the hotel corridor, the boys playing cricket rather than baseball, the occas-ional glimpse of a monocle. I had bustness with one of the seven or eight large merchants who compose the commercial aristocracy of the place. When I had inclination even, to plow through the groped my way up a dingy flight of wood-printed matter. Take Milton's 'Paradise en steps and opened the office door I en steps and opened the office door I thought I had siumbled into a volume of Dickens. The merchant stood with hands clasped behind, his back to the stove, dictating letters for the English steamer to two men clerks who were writing longhand, the one the letter, the other the copy. The American typewriter, the debonair operator of the American typewriter, and the carbon copy have not yet routed the good old-fashioned business methods of St. John's. It is not so long since St. John's had only one mail Homer's "Irad," for instance. How many men among the number who talk and write about the 'Illad'have ever read the city is indebted to Mr. Reid's cross-country railroad; and I am told, by the way, that the mail to the United States now exceeds that to England, which would in-"I venture the assertion that very few

No amount of optimism could call St. John's beautiful city. It was swept from end to end by fire six years ago, and it has not yet cleaned its hearth. The gaunt black walls of ruined churches and busi-ness blocks rise from the heart of the city, where if it were a prosperous or a growing place, the value of real estate would counsel prompt cleaning up and re-building. Within the city limits there are no trees, there are no white he are no residences that would be called handsome in an American town of 5,000. The one saving grace to all this is the profusion of flowers. As the season short, they cannot be raised in any abundance outdoors; and so scores of con-

their views are much clearer than the views of men who have really read the works, so far as the essence is concerned."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

***MAN AND HIS BURDEN.**

The Composite Load Born Daily The Ordinary Citisen.

"Man carries a pretty good weight in these modern times, when you come in the common the common than the series of the outposts." An old fabruman kept the colory have been deed to lace an analytical turn, "and, really it makes a fellow a trife tired when being a bout him, and which are necessary at this time in the history of civilization in order to give him a polite standing in the community in which he lives, and in order to give him a polite standing in the community in which he lives, and in order to give him a polite standing in the community in which he lives, and in order to give him a polite standing in the fearful responsibility of carrying such a load, and yet one must do it if he is happy.

"Here are the two articles which stice closer than a brother, and then we find war one top shirt, one collar and two seeds of the control of the c